



Arkansas

Shumaker Naval Ammunition Depot

Facility and Location

The Navy operated Former Shumaker Naval Ammunition Depot (NAD) from 1944 until 1957 for the manufacture, testing, storage, distribution, disassembly, reworking, and destruction of ammunition, bombs, explosives, and rocket motors. The former depot, located in Camden, Arkansas, now functions as the Highland Industrial Park, a munitions storage and test facility for defense contractors. The current facility performs final assembly, test, and storage of missiles and rocket launchers.

Navy manuals from the 1940s and the 1950s indicate that rockets produced at Shumaker NAD did not use perchlorate. The Navy rockets assembled were simple in composition and construction. Perchlorate is a constituent in more complex guided missile motors.

The Potentially Responsible Party Search Letter Investigation and Report, completed in December 2000, established that the Navy did not use perchlorate at the site. Perchlorate use is attributed to subsequent private tenants of the site in the production of post Korean War missile systems. Site Investigations indicate private operations are the sole or primary source of contaminants.

Media Sampled and Findings

Groundwater — Prior to 2007, 3 of 16 samples detected perchlorate from 413 to 850 ppb. Samples were taken from an area where rocket motors were previously demilitarized by high pressure water wash out and disposed of by open burn/open detonation (OB/OD).

Appropriate Actions

A PRP search was conducted because perchlorate levels were above the EPA and DoD Preliminary Remediation Goal of 15 ppb, the decision documents stated the Navy is not a contributor to perchlorate at this site.